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MEMORANDUM FOR: Corps Project Managers,
Project TAKEOFF

SUBJECT: Program Guidance -- Mount Attack on VC Infrastructure

1. In compliance with instructions of the TAKEOFF Project Manager, dated 10 August 1967, forwarded herewith is the approved action program, Mount Attack on VC Infrastructure.

2. The following are initial Corps/Province program objectives/reporting requirements. Because this is an entirely new program, the initial reporting requirements are somewhat more extensive than we hope will be necessary for future, periodic reporting. It is essential at the outset to establish a base against which future development and progress may be measured.

Action #3. Designate Corps ICEX Coordinator, appoint and convene a Corps ICEX Committee, explain to appropriate US and FVMAF unit commanders and intelligence/counterintelligence advisors the ICEX Concept and objectives, and select Province ICEX Coordinators.

Reporting requirement: This action, per MACV Dir 381-41, should have been accomplished as of 31 July 1967 (under extended suspense date), except that FVMAF briefings can be deferred until after ICEX discussions have begun with the GVN. The initial corps report should identify the membership of the Corps ICEX Committee by position or title, the names or designations of individuals briefed, and the names and organizations of the Province ICEX Coordinators (RDC/P, CRD, District/Sector S-2 Advisor, etc.) Subsequent reporting should note changes or additions.

Action #4. Continue development of existing DOICCs.

Reporting requirement: Initial report should indicate briefly the current status/effectiveness and location of DOICCs in being, i.e. - fully functioning, processing OB but not infrastructure intelligence, under development/organization and training. Subsequent reports will indicate progress, changes in scheduling, problems encountered which require Corps or Saigon action. (Note: Pending further guidance operational and intelligence reporting should use existing organizational channels.)

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Action #6. Provide for necessary military personnel augmentation of ICEX coordinating elements at Corps, province and district level.

The Saigon ICEX Staff has submitted to Chief of Staff, MACV, a request for 126 Military personnel spaces.

Corps ICEX Coordinators have indicated their estimated, initial military personnel needs, to be filled by personnel to be made available by MACV and/or the Corps Senior Advisor.

Reporting Requirements: After initial spaces are approved and allocated, corps will report action taken to obtain additional personnel, (over and above the initial MACV allocation) personnel received (by rank/grade and service) and changes in requirements.

Action #7. Upon receipt of guidance to Corps ICEX Coordinator from Saigon ICEX Staff, brief concerned GVN military, intelligence and security officials on proposed attack on VC infrastructure.

Reporting requirement: Report action taken, and any significant reactions and problems. Future periodic reporting should report only significant changes in problems in liaison and coordination relationships.

Action #8. Review infrastructure intelligence collection requirements, programs, reporting, collation and dissemination, and recommend necessary changes in the interest of greater efficiency, effective coordination and division effort, improved target selection, and satisfaction of the several types of intelligence needs. (This is a continuing action.)

Reporting requirements: This, obviously, is a highly technical area which can best be handled in the regular, command and technical channels of the participating agencies. Project TAKEOFF reporting should include only brief summary reporting of actions taken. As an initial goal, however, it is requested that an initial, "most wanted list" of VC infrastructure personalities be established for each province and/or district, as deemed most feasible by the Corps ICEX Coordinator.

Action #9. Review and make recommendations for more effective applications and coordination of existing programs and resources for exploitation of operational infrastructure intelligence for harassment, disruption, capture, exploitation and elimination of the VC infrastructure. (This is a continuing action requirement.)

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Reporting requirement: Responses to this action requirement are better suited to current command/technical channels of the participating agencies; however, at the discretion of the ICEX coordinators, these should be summarized in Project TAKEOFF reporting, with comment from the next higher echelon.

Action #10. Conduct a comprehensive and definitive study of all aspects of the problems of judicial handling and detention of VC civilian infrastructure. Recommend corrective actions, operating policies and procedures.

Reporting requirement: The suspense date indicated in Tab 10 of Tab B of the Action Program is clearly unrealistic. The ICEX Staff study group for this action ("ICEX/SIDE") will, in due course, seek field assistance. In the interim, an initial field report only, will (a) identify the most critical aspects of this problem as seen by the Corps, (b) indicate the province or provinces that warrant most immediate attention in terms of physical facilities for screening/interrogation/judicial processing/detention, and (c) advise if there is a specific jail or detention camp which is overcrowded with VC detainees awaiting trial.

Action No. 11. Conduct an on-the-ground review of interrogation facilities, practices and procedures, including coordination, exploitation and follow-through, with a view to optimum support to the attack on infrastructure.

No initial report required. Further guidance pending.

Action No. 12. Establish requisite reporting systems, both for purposes of program management and evaluation, and for support (including ADP) to field collection and collation activities and operations against infrastructure.

This guidance under Project TAKEOFF constitutes initial program reporting requirements, over and above individual participating agency requirements.

Further guidance will be following.

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Attack on VC Infrastructure